

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussions, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 16, 20, 22-23 and 28-54 are currently pending in the application. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8-10, 12, 14-15, 17-19, 21 and 24-27 have been canceled; Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 16, 20, 22, 23 and 28-30 have been amended, and Claims 31-54 have been added herewith. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not introduce any new matter. For example, paragraphs [0020] and [0038] describe the communication between a browser and a system according to one aspect of the present invention. The addition of new claims 31-54 is also supported by the originally filed claims and specification, e.g., see paragraphs [0038] and [0024]-[0032].

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the courtesy of a personal interview extended to Applicant's representative on May 26, 2004. During the interview, no exhibits were shown and no demonstrations were conducted. Generally claims 18, 24 and 27-30 were discussed with respect to the references cited against those claims. No agreement was reached as to the allowability of the claims; however it was agreed that amendments consistent with those presented herein would be made and filed in a formal response.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter; Claims 1-3, 5-7, 11-13, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,104,711 (hereinafter "the '711 patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,835,718 (hereinafter "the '718 patent"); Claims 16, 20 and 22-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '711 patent in view of the '718 patent and further in view of U.S.

Patent No. 6,507,577 (hereinafter “the ‘577 patent”); Claims 18, 24 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘711 patent in view of the ‘718 patent and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,275,490 (hereinafter “the ‘490 patent”); and Claims 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘711 patent in view of the ‘718 patent and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,308,219 (hereinafter “the ‘219 patent”).

In response to the rejection of claims 28-30, those claims have been amended to remove the phrase “the whole document name,” thereby rendering moot this rejection.

In response to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), all those rejections, except those previously directed to claims 18, 24, and 27 are rendered moot by the amendments to the independent claims. The subject matter of claims 2 and 18 was incorporated into the independent claim 1, and the other remaining, pending, independent claims were similarly amended. The independent claims now recite obtaining “a Uniform Resource Locator stored in an address bar of a Web browser corresponding to a Web page being displayed to a user by the Web browser of the user-side”; converting, “without user intervention, the Uniform Resource Locator into a telephone number corresponding to a location at which a provider of the Web page can be contacted”; and visually identify, “without user invention, that the telephone number is known for the Uniform Resource Locator corresponding to the Web page being displayed to the user.” The combination of such positively recited elements is not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Turning to the rejection of previously pending claim 18, the Office Action admits that the ‘711 patent does not teach “visually identifying to a user, without a user request, that a second identifier is known for the electronic information being displayed to the user.” The Office Action attempts to overcome this admitted deficiency by citing the ‘490 patent. However, the

'490 patent also fails to teach obtaining the URL stored in an address bar of a Web browser and converting that URL to a telephone number without user intervention. The '490 patent describes embedding a URL within the body of the web page directly. This has the disadvantage that web pages for which a second identifier is to be determined must each be modified to include the URL. This requires write access to the data that is to be modified and potentially reformatting of the pages to make room for the URL within the web page.

By contrast, by utilizing the URL stored in the address bar, web pages do not need to be updated to provide the claimed inventions. In addition, since the web pages do not need to be updated, the service of converting URLs to telephone numbers can be done by third parties, not actually responsible for the content of the web pages. Thus, claims 1, 5 and 11 should be indicated as patentable over the cited combination of references. Similarly, new claims 52-54 are patentable for reasons analogous to those presented for the patentability of claims 1, 5 and 11.

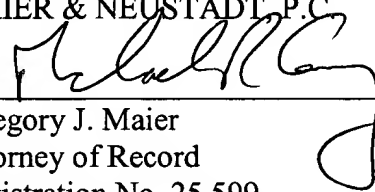
Furthermore, claims 28-30 recite utilizing longest sub-string matching. In such an embodiment, the telephone numbers of whole portions of a Web hierarchy can be changed by changing a single entry, without having to go back and update every single page in the hierarchy. Such a positively recited limitation is not suggested by the cited references. Regardless of whether partial matching was utilized in other areas, the Office Action has failed to establish that one of ordinary skill in the art would have utilized it for partial URL matching. Thus, claims 28-30 are further patentable over the cited combination of references, and new claims 46-48 reciting matching prefixes are patentable for reasons analogous to those set forth for claims 28-30 and based on their dependence on claims 28-30.

Application No. 09/575,707  
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Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome and the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gregory J. Maier', is written over a horizontal line.

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